

Cave Painting Conservation, Bay Conservation, Marine Protected Areas, and Tourism Planning

Mozambique

OPPORTUNITY: The U.S. Department of the Interior's (DOI) International Technical Assistance Program (ITAP) is seeking multiple experts to provide technical assistance in Mozambique.

BACKGROUND: DOI-ITAP provides assistance to other countries on subjects of Departmental expertise, on a reimbursable basis. The program is currently operating in seventeen countries with support from organizations such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Over the last decade, Mozambique has experienced significant economic growth, and yet, despite these improvements Mozambique remains one of the poorest countries in the world. The economy of Mozambique remains highly dependant upon donor funds, a weak agricultural sector, and a structurally problematic manufacturing and trade sector. The rich cultural and natural resources of Mozambique make the development of a major tourism industry the best option for sustainable economic growth. The Government of Mozambique is supportive of such endeavors in the hopes that the development of tourism as a major industry may help create jobs and alleviate poverty while reducing pressure on the environment and protected areas. However, the infrastructure needed for a strong tourism industry is lacking. Furthermore, major cultural, historic and natural sites with potential of becoming tourist destinations are now endangered. A major intervention is needed to not only conserve and preserve these sites, but also to develop their tourism potential.

The focus of this USAID/Mozambique tourism initiative is the promotion of a Northern Mozambique tourism product that will create jobs, attract investments, and build capacity of local service providers to offer expanded tourism services that still preserve the environment. DOI-ITAP has partnered with USAID/Mozambique to provide technical assistance to selected protected areas in Northern Mozambique, targeting the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa where sites have the strongest potential to competitively enter the tourism market. DOI-ITAP is providing technical assistance and training to improve overall protected area management and visitor services at sites within the Northern Arc of Mozambique; assessing and supporting the potential of these sites as tourist destinations.

ASSIGNMENT: DOI-ITAP is assembling teams of experts to provide technical assistance in Mozambique beginning in August/September 2006. Applications are welcome from candidates with expertise in one or more of the following targeted areas:

1. Cave Painting Conservation: DOI staff with expertise in indigenous cultural artifact preservation, specifically cave painting conservation, will help local governments to develop a conservation management plan as well as assist government officials with the drafting of protection legislation. In addition, experts will be asked to provide advice and guidance on preserving cave paintings while also designing a compatible tourist experience to the caves.
2. Pemba Bay Conservation: DOI staff with experience in bay conservation will help develop a conservation plan for Pemba Bay, provide advice on forming public-private partnerships geared toward conservation of the Bay, and analyze relevant scientific studies and their application in establishing appropriate levels of resource use.
3. Marine Protected Areas: A team of DOI staff with expertise in marine protected areas will assist with the development of the legislative framework for marine national parks and provide advice and guidance on best practices in marine protected area management.
4. Tourism Planning: DOI staff with expertise in protected area management and tourism will participate in an assessment of a number of protected area sites in Mozambique identified for their tourism potential. The assessment will result in recommendations for site development and potential for follow-on DOI technical assistance.

SCHEDULE: ITAP is assembling two-four person teams for multiple assignments. These assignments will typically range from two to three weeks in duration. The technical assistance will be provided in Mozambique. The Northern Mozambique Tourism Project focuses on the Northern Arc, the geographic area of Mozambique stretching from Ilha de Mozambique in the South East, along the coast, to Pemba and the Quirimbas Archipelago and National Park in the North, then northwest through the Niassa Reserve ending on the Mozambique shores of Lake Niassa. A one to two-week assessment trip to Mozambique is anticipated to take place in September 2006. Technical assistance enumerated in #1-3 above will begin late summer/early fall 2006.

PRE- AND POST-TRIP DUTIES: All travel and in-country logistics will be handled by DOI-ITAP. Background material will be provided to the selected individuals prior to departure. The selected individuals will be expected to work in collaboration with the DOI-ITAP manager, team colleagues, in-country counterparts, and USAID representatives both before and after travel to the region. Selected individuals will communicate both over the phone and through e-mail on the preparation and follow-up for the technical assistance.

Within 3 weeks of the completion of the trip, each team will provide the DOI-ITAP manager a brief draft report of the trip events, evaluations made, and recommendations for future related training and technical assistance. For individuals selected to conduct

the initial on-site assessment in Mozambique, the report will include an assessment of priority training and technical assistance needs, recommendations for addressing these priority needs with DOI expertise, and developing a draft work plan for providing requisite technical assistance.

COSTS: DOI-ITAP will cover all travel costs associated with this assignment (round-trip airfare, lodging, meals, immunizations, etc.). The salaries of the team members, however, must be paid by their employing DOI agency for the duration of the international assignment, including pre- and post-trip obligations.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Persons wishing to be considered for this assignment:

- Must be a current employee of DOI;
- Must have demonstrated experience in one of the technical specialties detailed above;
- Must be willing to work in remote locations with “rustic” conditions during this assignment; and
- Must have demonstrated ability to work with and adapt to the needs and abilities of agencies and professionals of different ethnic or cultural groups.

Highly desirable qualifications include:

- Previous international experience, particularly experience with protected area systems in other countries (please indicate if you have been to Mozambique and in what capacity);
- Portuguese language proficiency.

Upon selection, candidates must submit a current physician-signed letter or medical review form indicating fitness for duty.

Candidates that reach the interview stage of the selection process must obtain supervisory approval for their participation in this program.

HOW TO APPLY

Persons interested in being considered for this international assignment should send a resume and/or letter of interest detailing relevant work experience. A form SF 171 is acceptable. Please ensure that you include with your application materials the following administrative information; home and work address, phone/fax numbers, supervisor name and contact details (phone number and e-mail), whether you have a valid personal and/or official passport, date of birth, and grade/step. Please refer to the DOI-ITAP website,

<http://www.doi.gov/intl/itap/> for additional information about our program, other short-term opportunity announcements, and our travel guidelines.

Submit applications (electronically is preferred) to:

Jillian R. Hume
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U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
MS 3530, Room 3547
Washington, DC 20240
Tel: (202) 208-3624
Fax: (202) 501-6381
E-mail: Jillian_Hume@ios.doi.gov

Applicants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible and all applications should be submitted no later than COB, June 30, 2006.

All NPS applicants should copy their applications to Rudy D' Alessandro in the NPS Office of International Affairs: email rudy_dalessandro@nps.gov or fax 202-371-1446.

Any questions regarding the details of these assignments can be directed to Jillian Hume (contact information above).

Selection Process

A short list of candidates will be interviewed by telephone. The entire selection process may take a few months. All candidates will be notified of the results of the selection process, notification may be by telephone, email or letter.

This announcement has been developed in collaboration with NPS/OIA. The position is open to all applicants that meet the stated requirements.